

CA1  
DA22  
61P12

EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND DOMESTIC DISAPPEARANCE  
OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS  
AS A PERCENTAGE OF PRODUCTION  
CANADA, 1935 to 1959



Rachel Berthiaume

Canada Department of Agriculture


Economics Division

in co-operation with

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Agriculture Division

Ottawa



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2022 with funding from  
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761115517401>

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
TRENDS . . . . .	2
TABLE 1	
Total Value of Exports, Imports and Domestic Disappearance of Agricultural Production as Percentage of Total Value of Production, Canada . . . . .	4
CHART 1	
Value of Domestic Disappearance, Imports, Exports and Production as a Percentage of the Previous Year . . . . .	5
TABLE 2	
Exports as Percentage of Production Specified Agricultural Products . . . . .	6
TABLE 3	
Imports as Percentage of Production Specified Agricultural Products . . . . .	7
TABLE 4	
Domestic Disappearance as Percentage of Production Specified Agricultural Products . . . . .	8
CHART 2	
Value of Production, Domestic Disappearance Exports and Imports (Five year moving averages) . . . . .	9
TABLE 5	
Average Farm Value of Production . . . . .	10



## INTRODUCTION

This report indicates the percentages which exports, imports and domestic disappearance represented of the total production of the main agricultural products of Canada for the period 1935 to 1959. The figures in the study are grouped into five-year periods in order to simplify the presentation and to even out some of the extremes resulting from year-to-year fluctuations in the size of the crop and utilization of carryover stocks, particularly grains. Only imports of agricultural products of a kind grown in Canada are considered in the study. Vegetables, other than potatoes and field roots, are not included in the specified agricultural products tables due to difficulties of computation but they are included in the aggregate.

### Method of Calculation

The calculations were made on a value rather than a quantity basis, in order that figures for all products could be added. The farm price was used for every commodity and for calculating the value of production, exports, imports and domestic disappearance. Seeds and milk products were computed on a quantity basis because no farm price was available for seeds and the value of milk products was already included in milk.

Crop years were used for most products, namely, August-July for grains; July-June for fruits, potatoes and honey; April-March for maple products; October-September for tobacco; and January-December for livestock. Carry-over stocks were taken into consideration except for fruits and some minor products.

As far as possible exports and imports of semi and fully manufactured agricultural products were converted to the raw equivalent for inclusion in the calculations.

In calculating the average percentage that exports and imports represented of all commodities the value of grains, roots, forage crops and milk fed to livestock and the value of seed used were deducted from the total value of production to avoid duplication. A similar correction was necessary for the calculation of domestic disappearance when calculated for all commodities combined.

All basic statistics used in the bulletin were provided by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.





## TRENDS

### General

The value of exports in relation to production, with the exception of the war period, shows a moderate decline over the 25 year period (Table 1). The ratio of imports to domestic production for farm products has never been high, averaging about five per cent. The value of the production used in Canada in relation to total agricultural output remained fairly close to 70 per cent during the period 1935-54, since then however, the rapid growth in population combined with other forces in Canada has led to an increase in domestic consumption and the 1955-59 average was almost 80 per cent.

In Chart 1 the value of annual production, exports, imports and domestic disappearance as a percentage of the previous year is shown. This Chart illustrates the relative stability of total agriculture production in Canada and the decline in the annual variation of exports. It also indicates the recent stability in total imports and the growth in domestic consumption.

### Exports (Table 2)

On a commodity basis, exports vary considerably, both among products and from period to period. Considering the five-year averages, exports of wheat as a percentage of production vary from 55 to 71 per cent. On a year to year basis the variation is greater due to fluctuations in production. The proportion of rye and flaxseed has trended upward, whereas exports of oats have been most erratic.

In the case of the livestock group, exports of hogs, including the live equivalent of pork products, have declined significantly. Exports of milk products, (converted to milk equivalent) have followed a similar pattern. There has been larger changes among individual dairy products. Exports of cheese have gone down while those of the milk powders have gone up considerably.

Exports of apples which amounted to about half the crop before the war now amounts to less than one-fifth of the total.

### Imports (Table 3)

Imports of agricultural products into Canada in relation to production are significant for only a few commodities, namely, corn, flaxseed, soybeans, wool and fruits other than apples. Imports of flaxseed have decreased sharply, with the large increase in domestic production in recent years. Corn imports appear to have stabilized at about one-third of domestic production. On the other hand, soybean imports have increased greatly. Imports of livestock and animal products are for the most part small in relation to production except for wool which has risen from 334





per cent of domestic production in 1935-39 to 631 per cent in 1955-59. Imports of sheep and lambs have gone up and for poultry there has been a shift from a small net export to an import basis.

Canada imports considerable quantities of directly competitive fruits and vegetables, a large proportion entering the market during the off-season for domestic production. Imports of tobacco are relatively small and have remained fairly stable since 1945. There has been a threefold increase in the importation of honey since 1950-54. This reflects the growing demand for this product in Canada.

#### Domestic Disappearance (Table 4)

The greater portion of most Canadian farm products is utilized domestically; wheat, flaxseed, clover seeds and whole milk powder being the major exceptions. For livestock products particularly, the proportion of production used in Canada has been rising both as a result of population increase and some shift in consumption patterns.

Five-year moving averages of the value of production, domestic disappearance, exports and imports of agricultural products are illustrated in Chart 2. It may be seen that the gap between production and domestic disappearance remained relatively constant until 1945-49, widened during 1948-55, and has since narrowed. Exports rose sharply from an average 194 million dollars in 1937-42 to a peak of 770 million dollars in 1948-53, declining to 594 million dollars in 1953-58 and has since risen slowly. Imports, over the whole period, have shown a steady upward trend.

#### Farm Value of Products (Table 5)

This table lists the five-year average current value of production for each commodity.



Table 1.-- Total Value of Exports, Imports and Domestic Disappearance  
of Agricultural Production as Percentage of  
Total Value of Production, Canada

	:	:	:
	Exports	Imports	Domestic disappearance <sup>a/</sup>
	- per cent -		
1935-1939	32	5	72
1940-1944	39	4	68
1945-1949	41	4	66
1950-1954	32	5	66
1955-1959	31	6	78

<sup>a/</sup> Domestic disappearance plus exports minus imports does not equal 100 per cent of production because of the influence of year to year changes in stocks.



Chart 1.-Value of Domestic Disappearance, Imports, Exports and Production as a Percentage of the Previous Year

Per cent

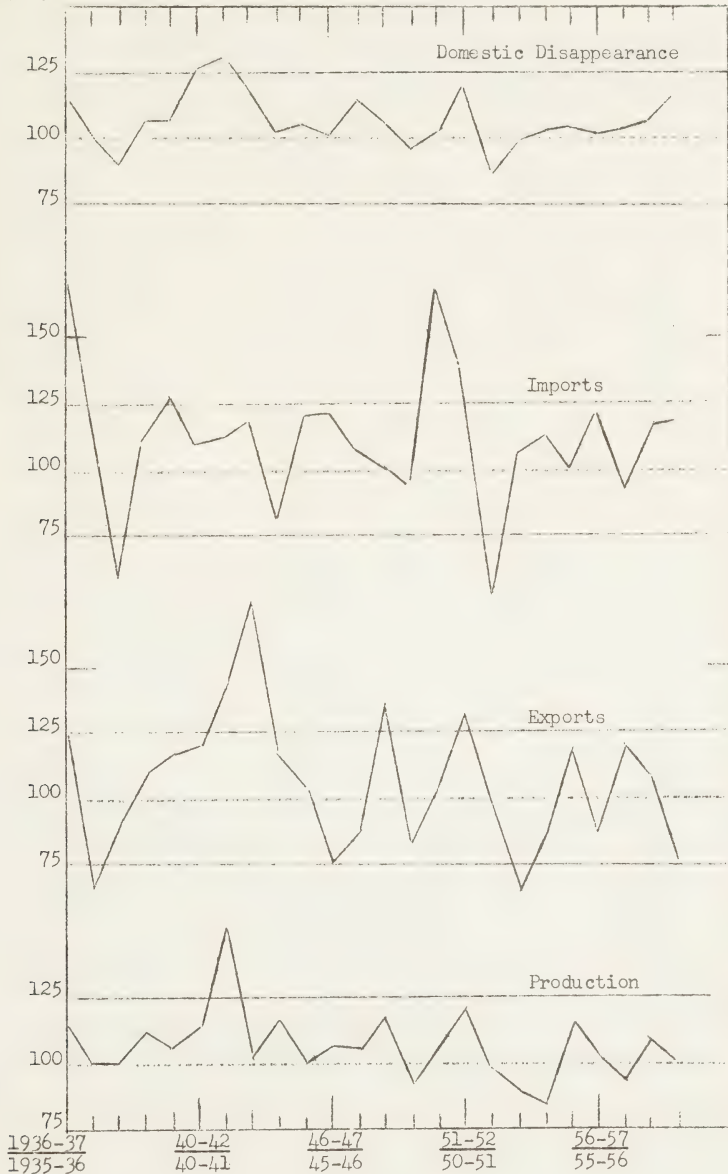






Table 2.- Exports as Percentage of Production Specified  
Agricultural Products

	: 1935-	: 1940-	: 1945-	: 1950-	: 1955-
	: 1939	: 1944	: 1949	: 1954	: 1958
	- per cent -				
Wheat	61	71	68	55	65
Oats	4	13	7	13	3
Barley	17	15	18	30	30
Rye	26	48	62	51	67
Flaxseed	3	42	20	47	65
Corn	23 <sup>a/</sup>	1	2	2	2
Peas (dry)	1	9	30	25	28
Beans (dry)	26	25	19	24	10
Buckwheat	2	0	0	13	11
Hay and clover	1	1	1	1	1
Soybeans	n.a.	-	-	7	33
Clover seeds	71	33	78	77	58
Grass seeds	19	31	46	53	53
Potatoes	4	6	13	7	7
Field roots	3	10	10	12	14
Cattle	14	12	21	19	15
Calves	4	3	1	1	1
Hogs	26	36	21	6	6
Sheep and lambs	1	5	13	9	5
Wool	41	30	49	45	50
All poultry	2	2	6	1	0
Eggs	1	11	22	3	3
Milk	7	10	6	3	2
Butter	2	1	1	0	1
Cheese	66	70	58	26	14
Evap. whole milk	24	22	20	7	2
Wh. milk powder	26	25	39	70	82
Sk. milk powder	2	2	33	20	26
Apples	50	24	25	18	16
Other fruits	8	3	3	10	5
Honey	13	4	0	2	2
Maple products	25	25	27	43	48
Tobacco	21	15	15	24	22

<sup>a/</sup> Includes re-exports of corn.



Table 3.- Imports as Percentage of Production Specified  
Agricultural Products

	: 1935- : 1939	: 1940- : 1944	: 1945- : 1949	: 1950- : 1954	: 1955- : 1959
	- per cent -				
Wheat	1	0	0	0	0
Oats	1	0	0	0	0
Barley	0	0	0	0	0
Rye	0	0	4	0	0
Flaxseed	71	0	0	4	1
Corn	180	39	62	35	34
Peas (dry)	9	6	6	18	6
Beans (dry)	5	3	4	14	11
Buckwheat	0	0	-	0	0
Hay and clover	-	-	-	-	-
Soybeans	n.a.	34	119	120	177
Clover seeds	7	2	3	10	6
Grass seeds	24	23	17	18	12
Potatoes	1	1	4	5	6
Field roots	-	-	-	-	-
Cattle	4	2	1	5	5
Calves	-	-	-	-	-
Hogs	1	0	0	1	0
Sheep and lambs	1	2	0	12	50
Wool	334	541	615	835	631
All poultry	-	-	0	2	3
Eggs	0	0	0	1	1
Milk	0	0	1	1	1
Butter	0	0	1	1	0
Cheese	1	0	1	10	11
Evap. whole milk	-	-	-	-	-
Wh. milk powder	9	1	0	0	0
Sk. milk powder	-	-	-	2	2
Apples	4	2	4	7	9
Other fruits	106	105	77	74	108
Honey	1	2	5	5	16
Maple products	0	0	0	0	0
Tobacco	5	2	1	1	1





Table 4.- Domestic Disappearance as Percentage of Production  
Specified Agricultural Products

	: 1935- : 1939	: 1940- : 1944	: 1945- : 1949	: 1950- : 1954	: 1955- : 1959
	- per cent -				
Wheat	39	40	40	28	36
Oats	97	86	96	85	97
Barley	83	86	94	59	67
Rye	75	75	37	34	61
Flaxseed	163	54	72	60	34
Corn	257	143	157	133	131
Peas (dry)	108	97	76	93	78
Beans (dry)	79	78	85	90	101
Buckwheat	98	100	100	87	89
Hav and clover	99	99	99	99	99
Soybeans	n.a.	134	219	213	241
Clover seeds	36	70	25	33	27
Grass seeds	105	92	72	65	59
Potatoes	97	95	91	98	98
Field roots	96	90	90	88	86
Cattle	90	90	79	86	90
Calves	96	97	99	99	99
Hogs	75	64	79	95	94
Sheep and lambs	100	98	87	103	146
Wool	393	610	667	890	684
All poultry	97	97	92	101	155
Eggs	100	87	80	97	98
Milk	93	90	94	98	98
Butter	98	99	100	99	97
Cheese	33	29	43	84	104
Evap. whole milk	75	76	80	93	98
Wh. milk powder	84	72	63	30	19
Sk. milk powder	96	98	66	80	74
Apples	54	78	78	89	93
Other fruits	198	202	174	165	202
Honey	88	97	105	103	114
Maple products	75	75	73	57	53
Tobacco	84	87	86	77	79



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

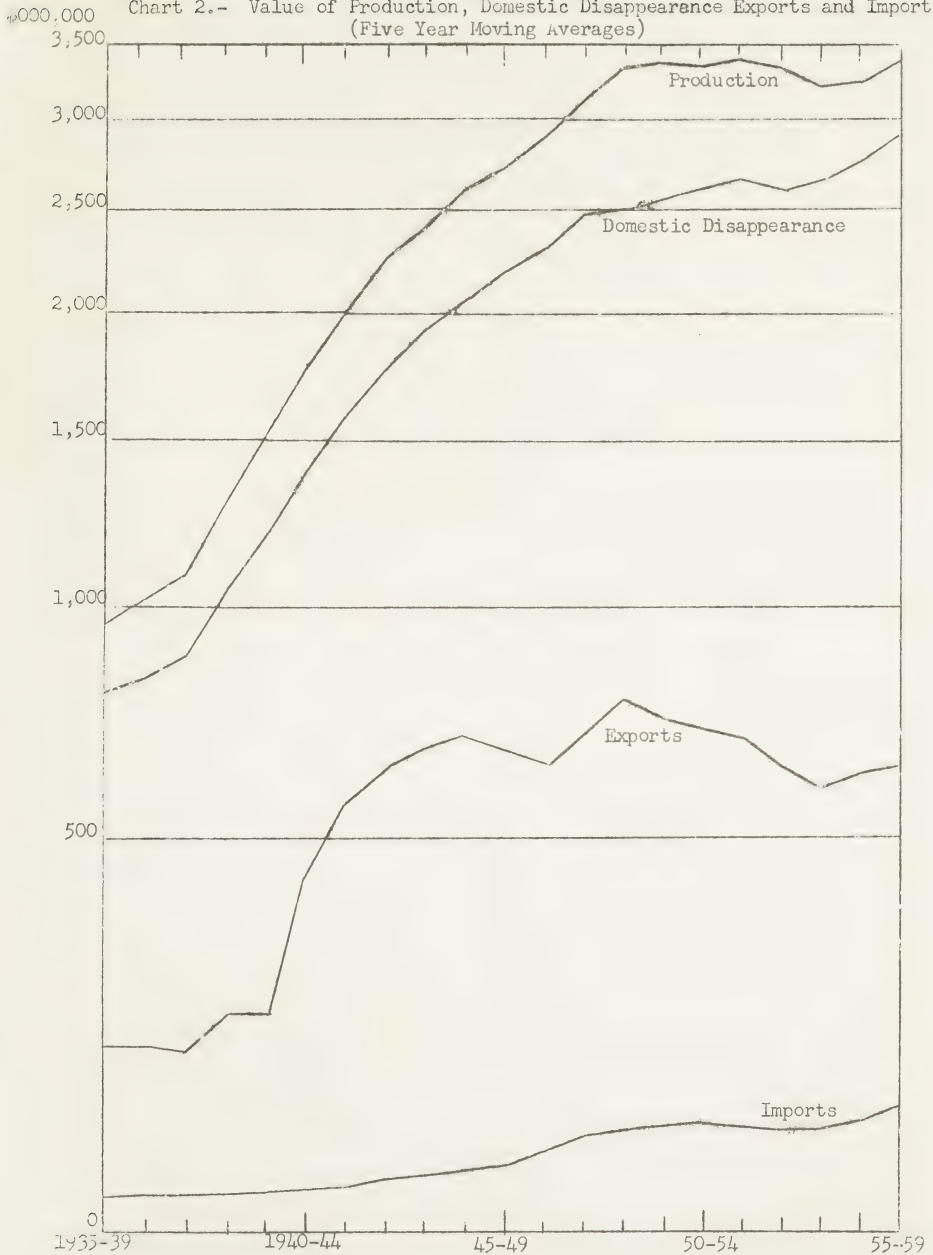
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Chart 2.- Value of Production, Domestic Disappearance Exports and Imports  
(Five Year Moving Averages)



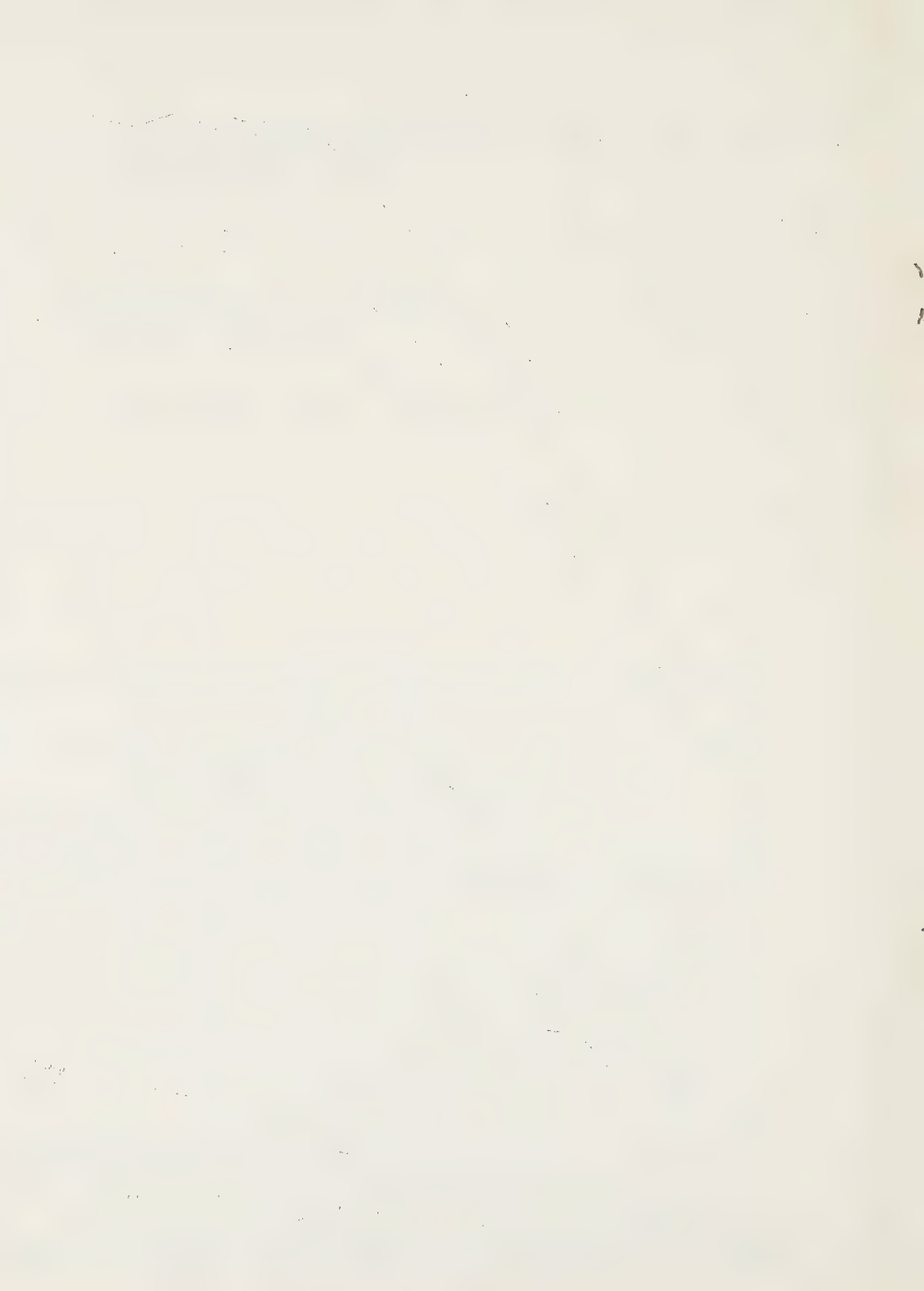


Table 5.- Average Farm Value of Production

	; 1935- : 1939	: 1940- : 1944	: 1945- : 1949	: 1950- : 1954	: 1955- : 1959
	- million dollars -				
Wheat	211	352	587	790	578
Oats	106	195	219	294	266
Barley	36	95	133	230	189
Rye	14	7	24	23	9
Flaxseed	2	21	37	28	61
Corn	4	9	14	30	36
Peas (dry)	2	3	4	2	3
Beans (dry)	2	3	5	5	4
Buckwheat	5	4	4	4	2
Tame Hay	123	189	251	282	298
Soybeans	-	1	3	11	12
Potatoes	35	56	72	78	76
Field Roots	13	14	13	9	8
Cattle	56	116	298	344	504
Calves	16	24	42	49	66
Hogs	80	218	278	322	297
Sheep and lambs	8	9	15	12	10
Wool	2	4	4	4	3
All poultry	30	53	83	145	148
Eggs	43	79	132	141	155
Milk	142	252	420	460	539
Apples	11	14	21	18	15
Other fruits	7	13	22	24	24
Honey	3	4	6	5	5
Maple products	3	5	8	10	10
Tobacco	15	20	45	62	78









3 1761 11551740 1